

**Question for written answer E-002347/2024
to the Commission**
Rule 144
Leire Pajín (S&D)

Subject: Fires in the Amazon and the application of Regulation 2023/1115 on deforestation-free products

In recent weeks we have seen alarming forest fires spreading in the Amazon. One of the key reasons for the increase in fires in the region is deforestation caused by human activity and climate change. A study¹ has revealed that approximately 43% of fires in the Amazon since August 2019 have been linked to deforestation.

To combat global deforestation and reduce the fire risk and greenhouse gas emissions, the EU adopted Regulation 2023/1115 on deforestation-free products. In the application of that regulation, cooperation with partner countries is essential. The Commission has therefore announced the creation of a joint working group to promote and accelerate application of the regulation. However, its meetings have yet to include any country from the Amazon region.

In view of this:

1. Why has the Commission not established a joint working group with Amazon countries?
2. What mechanisms does the Commission have to facilitate and accelerate the application of this regulation in Amazon countries?

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¹ <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/gcb.17202>